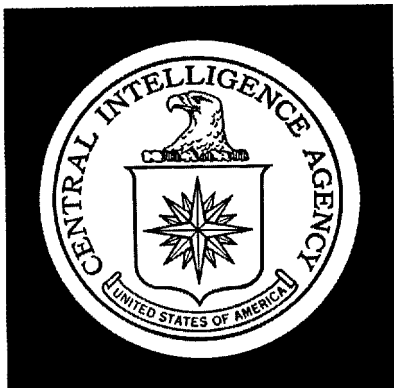


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13 June 1967

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# *Central Intelligence Bulletin*

## *CONTENTS*



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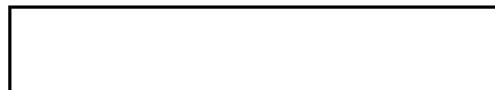
Vietnam: Military contacts at relatively low level; further moves in behalf of Ky's candidacy. (Page 5)

Western Europe: OECD members meet today to discuss Arab embargo of oil shipments. (Page 7)

NATO: Middle East situation expected to dominate today's meeting of NATO foreign ministers. (Page 8)

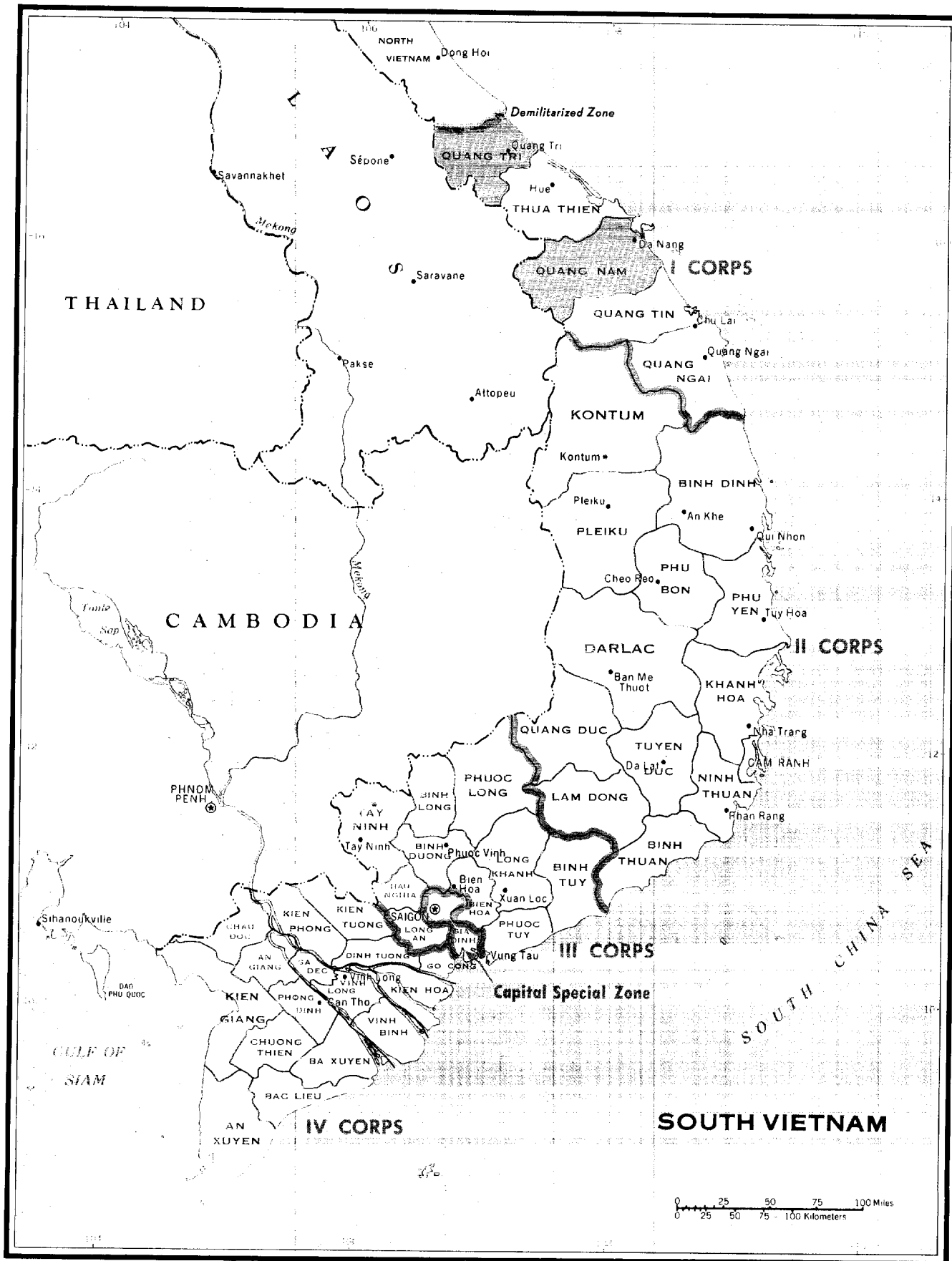


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13 Jun 67 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

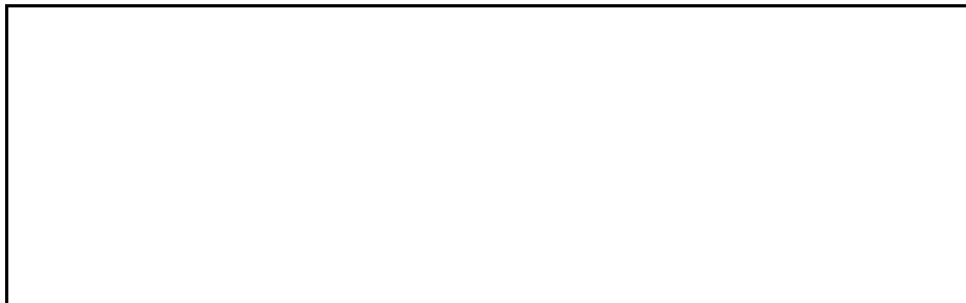
\*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: Combat activity throughout South Vietnam has been at a relatively low level in the past 24 hours with the exception of sporadic heavy fighting between allied units and North Vietnamese regulars in Quang Tri and Quang Nam provinces of I Corps. (Map)

The Political Situation in South Vietnam: [Premier Ky's presidential aspirations continue to cause a variety of public and behind the scenes maneuvers.]

[Ky said in a press conference on 12 June that he would select his vice presidential running mate by 1 July. He did not indicate his preference, but stated that his choice would be between two civilians. There are reports that Ky's supporters are putting heavy pressure on the Revolutionary Dai Viet Party's Ha Thuc Ky to drop his presidential candidacy and agree to become the Premier's running mate.]

[Privately, Ky has reportedly laid the groundwork for the establishment in Saigon about the beginning of July of a newspaper which will be a government-subsidized journal in support of his candidacy. Such a journal could be a useful supplement to Ky's recent efforts to garner maximum support from labor, religious, ethnic minority, and political splinter groups.]



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13 Jun 67

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Western Europe: The oil committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)-- comprising the US, Canada, Japan, and 18 West European nations-- met in Paris yesterday to examine the possible effects of the Middle East situation on oil supplies.

Reports received prior to the meeting indicated there was less concern over immediate fuel shortages than was shown during the 1956 Suez crisis, largely because supplies on hand are greater now. The council's principle is that in the event of shortages for civil use the available supply should be shared on a fair and equitable basis.

Britain and West Germany already are worried about obtaining adequate supplies if the crisis is prolonged and are stressing that any shortages should not be borne by Europe alone. Japan, according to the US Embassy in Tokyo, may have only a one-month reserve on hand and would be especially vulnerable to prolonged embargoes against the major international US and British companies. These firms supply some 76 percent of Japan's total oil imports.

France attempted to have yesterday's meeting postponed, claiming that the OECD session could cause the Arabs to "generalize" an embargo originally limited to the US and UK. The line taken by the French Government in a meeting last week with oil company presidents was that France does not intend to share its stockpiles with other European countries or to make available French-flag tankers for other than French needs. France may be compelled to cooperate in its own interests, however, if the crisis is prolonged.

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NATO: The Middle East situation is expected to be the principal topic of discussion at the NATO foreign ministers' meeting in Luxembourg today.

The North Atlantic Council meeting on 9 June urged such consultation by the foreign ministers as well as a continuing examination of the situation by the council.

Ambassador Cleveland notes that the crisis has wrought changes in various Western European attitudes. As a result, he believes Secretary Rusk will find his counterparts fully convinced of the necessity of the NATO defense program, since their expectations of an imminent East-West detente have been deflated. Ambassador Cleveland also sees a growing disinclination to grumble about Vietnam.

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13 Jun 67

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